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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : CONFIRMATION NO: 8805  
KEIJI UMEDA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: SHAWN A. HAMIDINIA  
SERIAL NO: 10/522,336 :  
FILED: JANUARY 25, 2005 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1653  
FOR: WATER-SOLUBLE KERATIN :  
DERIVATIVE AND USE THEREOF

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In reply to the Office Action mailed November 23, 2005, please undertake the following changes in the claims:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.